

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A tracking data cell (10) comprising:  
a pair of track and hold circuits (1, 1') coupled to a first multiplexer (5), wherein each of the track and hold circuits (1, 1') comprises:  
a linear amplifier (2) to receive a differential analog signal (D+, D-) under control by a first binary clock signal (H+) having a first phase, the linear amplifier (2) to provide a feed-forward input signal substantially equal with the differential analog signal (D+, D-) to a pseudo latch circuit (3) in the first phase of the first binary clock signal (H+),  
the pseudo latch circuit (3) under control by a second binary clock signal (H-), the pseudo latch circuit (3) to memorize the input signal and to provide a differential output signal (LD+, LD-) substantially equal with the feed-forward input signal in a second phase of the first binary clock signal (H-), the second binary clock signal substantially in anti-phase with the first binary clock signal (H+).  
a clock signal (H+, H-) being inputted substantially in anti-phase in the respective track and hold circuits (1, 1') for determining a receipt of a data signal (D+, D-) having a rate,  
said track and hold circuits (1, 1') providing an output signal (O) having a substantially half rate relative to the rate of the data signal (D+, D-).
2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A tracking data cell as claimed in ~~claim 2~~, claim 1, wherein the linear amplifier (2) comprises a first common source pair of transistors (T1, T2) biased in their common source terminals by a ~~switchable~~ switchable current source ( $I_{DC}$ ) via a first switch (S1) controlled by the first binary clock signal (H+) and receiving at their gates the differential analog signal (D+, D-), the linear amplifier (2) further comprising a common drain transistor (T3) having a gate coupled via substantially equal resistors (R) to the gates of the first common source pair of transistors (T1, T2) for determining drain currents flowing through the pair of transistors (T1, T2).

4. (currently amended) A tracking data cell as claimed in ~~claim 2~~, claim 1, wherein the pseudo latch circuit (3) comprises a second common source pair of transistors (T4, T5) being biased in their common source terminals by a ~~switchable~~ switchable current source ( $I_{DC}$ ) via a second switch (S2) controlled by the second binary clock signal (H-) and receiving at their gates the signal provided by the linear amplifier (2), the pseudo latch circuit (3) further comprising a common drain transistor (T6) having a gate coupled via substantially equal resistors ( $R_g$ ) to the respective gates of the second differential transistor pair (T4, T5) for reducing bias currents through the second transistor pair (T4, T5), the second transistor pair (T4, T5) being cross coupled.

5. (original) A tracking data cell as claimed in claim 3, wherein the linear amplifier (2) further comprises a pair of capacitors cross-coupled between a drain of a transistor of the first transistor pair (T1, T2) and the gates of the other transistor of the first transistor pair (T2, T1), respectively for reducing crosstalk currents at the amplifier's output.

6. (original) A tracking data cell as claimed in claim 5 comprising a cascaded coupling of two substantially identical linear amplifiers (2).

7. (currently amended) A Phase Locked Loop comprising a first tracking data cell (10) and a second tracking data cell (10') as claimed in claim 1 receiving an input signal (D+, D-) and being controlled by a respective quadrature clock signals (Hi, Hq) generated by a voltage controlled oscillator (VCO), the first tracking data cell (10) being coupled to a hard ~~limiter-limiter~~ (11) providing a binary data out signal (DO), the second tracking data cell being coupled to a delay element (12) providing an input signal for a pair of track and hold circuits (1, 1'), the track and hold circuits being controlled by the binary output signal (DO) and providing a frequency correction signal (E) for the voltage controlled oscillator (VCO) via a low-pass filter (LPF).

8. (currently amended) A Phase Locked Loop comprising a first tracking data cell (10) and a second tracking data cell (10') as claimed in claim 1 receiving an input signal (D+, D-) and being controlled by a respective quadrature clock signals (Hi, Hq) generated by a voltage controlled oscillator (VCO), the first tracking data cell (10) being coupled to a hard ~~limiter-limiter~~ (11) providing a binary data out signal (DO), the second tracking data cell being coupled to a delay element (12) providing an input signal for a pair of track and hold circuits (1, 1'), the track and hold circuits being controlled by the binary output signal (DO) and providing a frequency correction signal (E) for the voltage controlled oscillator (VCO) via a low-pass filter (LPF) further comprising a frequency error detector comprising an input circuit (50) including a first track and hold circuit (30) and a second track and hold circuit (30') as claimed in claim 1, receiving the frequency correction signal (E) and being controlled by the binary output signal (DO), said first and second track and hold circuits (30, 30') being coupled to a multiplexer means (25) controlled by the binary output signal (DO), the multiplexer means (25) being coupled to a slicer (35) providing a signal which is subtracted from the frequency correction signal (E) in a subtractor (S), the subtractor (S) providing a signal (FD) indicative for a frequency error between the frequency correction signal (E) and the binary output signal (DO).

9. (currently amended) A phase detector comprising a first input circuit (500) and second input circuit (500') as claimed in claim 8, first and second input circuits (500, 500') receiving respective quadrature clock signals (Hq, Hi), being controlled by input data signal (D) and providing respective first output signal (A) and second output signal (B), the first output signal (A) and its inverse replica being inputted to an output multiplexer (OM) controlled by the second output signal (B) via a hard ~~limiter~~limiter (250) and providing a signal (PD) indicative for a phase error between the input data signal and clock signal.